This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method ~~Use of L-carnitine and at least a component having an anti-oxidative activity for making an ingestable composition~~ for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being for treating dermatitis comprising administering an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine and at least one component having an anti-oxidate activity to a patient in need of same.

Claim 2 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the composition increases~~for increasing~~ the lipid secretion in the sebum and/or for producing a protective sebum layer on the skin.

Claim 3 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the patient has~~for treating~~ ulcerative dermatitis.

Claim 4 (currently amended) A method ~~Use of L-carnitine and at least a component having an anti-oxidative activity for the preparation of a medicament~~ for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human for preventing the onset or incidence of ulcers associated with diabetes, of circulation disturbances, of physical, chemical or microbial noxae or of eczema, comprising the steps of administering to a patient at risk of ulcers an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine and a component having an anti-oxidative activity~~said medicament being an ingestable composition~~.

Claim 5 (currently amended) A method ~~Use of L-carnitine and at least a component having an anti-oxidative activity for the preparation of a medicament~~ for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being for a reduction of itching ~~and improving a dry skin condition or sensible skin condition, said medicament being an ingestable composition~~ comprising the steps of administering to a patient that is itching due to a skin

condition an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine and a component having anti-oxidative activity.

Claim 6 (currently amended) A method ~~Use of L-carnitine and at least a component having an anti-oxidative activity~~ for making an ingestable composition for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being, ~~said stimulation of the lipid metabolism comprising an increasing of the lipid secretion in the sebum~~ comprising the step of using L-carnitine and at least one component having anti-oxidative activity to make the composition.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim ~~4, 5 and~~ 6, for producing a protective sebum layer on the skin.

Claim 8 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to ~~one of claims 4, 5,~~claim 6 ~~and 7,~~ for reducing dry skin or itching.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; vitamin C; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from ~~at~~ 1mg to 1 g per kg of body weight / day~~, preferably of from 5 mg to 250 mg per kg of body weight / day~~.

Claim 11 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1~~any of the preceding claims~~ wherein the amount of the component having an anti-oxidative activity is from 0.025 mg to 250mg per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The ~~use~~ method according to claim 1~~any of the preceding claims~~, wherein the ingestable composition contains a source of fat~~, which comprises unsaturated fatty acids or is enriched with unsaturated fatty acids~~.

Claim 13 (currently amended) The method~~use~~ according to claim 12, wherein the fat comprises ~~unsaturated fatty acids is~~ alpha-linolenic acid.

Claim 14 (currently amended) The method~~use~~ according to ~~any of the claims~~ claim 12~~ or 13~~, wherein said source of fat is selected from the group consisting of an animal fat, ~~preferably tallow or fish oil, more preferably beef tallow,~~ and a~~or an~~ vegetable fat, ~~preferably corn oil, sunflower oil, safflower oil, rape seed oil, soy bean oil, olive oil, borage oil, blackcurrent seed oil~~.

Claim 15 (currently amended) The method~~use~~ according to ~~any of the claims~~ claim 12~~ to 14~~, wherein the amount of said source of fat in the composition is at least 0.1 % by weight on basis of the total weight of the composition.

Claim 16 (currently amended) The method~~use~~ according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the ingestable composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, ~~or~~ a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food ~~or~~ and a dietary supplement.

Claim 17 (currently amended) A method for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being comprising the step of administering a composition comprising~~Use of~~ L-carnitine and at least a component having an anti-oxidative activity and being selected from the group consisting of ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof; or being selected from the group of mixtures of vitamin E or

derivatives thereof with two or three of vitamin C or derivatives thereof; grape seed extract; and cysteine, ~~for making an ingestable composition,~~

~~said ingestable composition being intended for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being,~~ said ingestable composition being a food or a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food or a dietary supplement.

Claim 18 (currently amended) An ingestable composition selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritional complete pet or human food, and a dietary supplement comprising L-carnitine and a least a component having an anti-oxidative activity and being selected from the group consisting of ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof; or being selected from the group of mixtures of vitamin E or derivatives thereof with two or three of vitamin C or derivatives thereof; grape seed extract; and cysteine.

Claim 19 (new) The method according to claim 4, wherein the component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; vitamin C; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (new) The method according to claim 5, wherein the component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; vitamin C; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or

diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (new) The method according to claim 6, wherein the component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; vitamin C; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof.

Claim 22 (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; vitamin C; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; or mixtures thereof.

Claim 23 (new) The method according to claim 4, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from 1mg to 1 g per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 24 (new) The method according to claim 5, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from 1mg to 1 g per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 25 (new) The method according to claim 6, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from 1mg to 1 g per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 26 (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from 1mg to 1 g per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 27 (new) The method according to claim 4 wherein the amount of the component having an anti-oxidative activity is from 0.025 mg to 250mg per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 28 (new) The method according to claim 5 wherein the amount of the component having an anti-oxidative activity is from 0.025 mg to 250mg per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 29 (new) The method according to claim 6 wherein the amount of the component having an anti-oxidative activity is from 0.025 mg to 250mg per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 30 (new) The method according to claim 9 wherein the amount of the component having an anti-oxidative activity is from 0.025 mg to 250mg per kg of body weight / day.

Claim 31 (new) The method according to claim 4, wherein the ingestable composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 32 (new) The method according to claim 5, wherein the ingestable composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 33 (new) The method according to claim 6, wherein the ingestable composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 34 (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ingestable composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 35 (new) The method according to claim 4, wherein the ingestable composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food and a dietary supplement.

Claim 36 (new) The method according to claim 5, wherein the ingestable composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food and a dietary supplement.

Claim 37 (new) The method according to claim 6, wherein the ingestable composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food and a dietary supplement.

Claim 38 (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ingestable composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food and a dietary supplement.